



Registered Charity No. 1023363

NEWSLETTER

Monday 4th January 2021

We hope you are all enjoying the Christmas holidays and looking forward to the new term at Playschool. Hopefully you've all stayed safe and well during the current pandemic.

The staff were all incredibly grateful for the wonderful cards and gifts they received, thank you very much. The Christmas raffle raised a whopping £151 which is amazing in the circumstances. Thanks so much to everyone for your continued support.

Playschool resumes on Monday 4th January at 9.10, with the socially distanced drop off and pick up continuing.

Themes for this half term:

- We'll be looking at Animals and Winter. We'll be making some bird feeders, so if you are able to donate a bag of bird food at all it would be great!

Daily requirements

Your child needs to bring the following to every playschool session – mid morning snack (fruit or vegetables, crackers and cheese, something they would eat at home as a snack), bottle of water (no juice please as continued sipping across the morning may cause tooth decay), warm coat / waterproof according to weather conditions and Wellington boots or other warm outside shoes they can wear for the garden and then change back into their clean indoor shoes for playing indoors. **Please feel free to send your child with a warm hat and gloves, but please ensure everything is named!**

Coronavirus Update

We will be open as normal from Monday, but will continue to have our zero tolerance policy for unwell children in the setting. Now we're in tier 4, and local cases are much higher than any of us would like, it's more important than ever that we all stay home and self-isolate and get tested if we're unwell with symptoms, and because children can have minimal symptoms, we really do ask you to keep your child home if they are unwell at all. In the lead up to Christmas we had several children with coughs and colds, and we really appreciate you keeping them home or getting them tested so we all knew it was safe for them to return to playschool. If a child or staff member does attend the setting and potentially pass it on to the rest of us, it may mean we have to close for 10 days while we self-isolate, which we want to avoid where possible.

Changes to the Early Years Coronavirus guidance now include a clause that settings should not charge fees to children if they are off due to isolating. As you all know, we do operate as a charity, with very tight margins, particularly with the extra costs due to Covid, and the fees pay the staff wages. It's not ideal for us to send staff home unpaid due to children not attending, so in an ideal world, if there is a space, we would try to offer you extra sessions to make up those that were lost due to isolating, or you are very well within your rights to ask for a refund for those sessions, starting from January, or you can leave it paid as a donation to playschool. Our usual policy is that we don't refund missed sessions for the reason already stated.

[What parents and carers need to know about early years providers, schools and colleges - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk)

[Symptoms of coronavirus \(COVID-19\) - NHS \(www.nhs.uk\)](https://www.nhs.uk)

CORONAVIRUS TIER 4

STAY AT HOME

gov.uk/coronavirus

If you live in a Tier 4 area, you cannot join or form a Christmas bubble. You must not leave or be outside of your home except for specific purposes.

MEETING FRIENDS AND FAMILY  <p>No household mixing, aside from support bubbles and two people meeting in public outdoor spaces.</p>	BARS, PUBS AND RESTAURANTS  <p>Hospitality closed, aside from sales by takeaway, drive-through or delivery.</p>	RETAIL  <p>Essential shops can open. Non-essential retail must close and can only open for click-and-collect and delivery.</p>	WORK AND BUSINESS  <p>Everyone must work from home unless they are unable to do so.</p>
EDUCATION  <p>Early years settings, schools, colleges and universities open during term time. Registered childcare, other supervised activities for childcare purposes, and childcare bubbles permitted.</p>	INDOOR LEISURE  <p>Closed.</p>	ACCOMMODATION  <p>Closed (with limited exceptions)</p>	PERSONAL CARE  <p>Closed.</p>
OVERNIGHT STAYS  <p>You must not stay overnight away from home. Limited exceptions apply.</p>	WEDDINGS AND FUNERALS  <p>Funerals of up to 30 people permitted. Wakes and other linked ceremonial events can continue in a group of up to six. Weddings of up to six can continue in exceptional circumstances.</p>	ENTERTAINMENT  <p>Indoor entertainment closed. Some outdoor attractions may remain open.</p>	PLACES OF WORSHIP  <p>Open for private prayer and communal worship, but cannot interact with anyone outside household or support bubble.</p>
TRAVELLING  <p>You must stay at home and only travel for work, education or other legally permitted reasons. If you must travel, you should stay local, and reduce the number of journeys you make. You must not leave a Tier 4 area or stay overnight away from home. Residents in Tiers 1 - 3 should not enter Tier 4 areas. Do not travel abroad if you live in a Tier 4 area unless an exemption applies.</p>	EXERCISE  <p>You can leave your home to exercise by yourself, with your household or support bubble, or with one person from another household. Outdoor sport allowed but gatherings limit applies except for youth and disabled sport.</p>	RESIDENTIAL CARE  <p>You can visit relatives in care homes with COVID-secure arrangements such as substantial screens, visiting pods, and window visits.</p>	CLINICALLY EXTREMELY VULNERABLE <p>The Clinically Extremely Vulnerable are advised to stay at home as much as possible, except to go outdoors for exercise or to attend health appointments.</p>

For support and more information visit:
gov.uk/coronavirus



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Ofsted
Good
Provider

Term Dates

Spring Term 2021

Monday 4th January – Friday 12th February
Monday 15th February – Friday 19th February Half Term
Monday 22nd February – Wednesday 31st March

Summer Term 2021

Monday 19th April – Friday 28th May
Monday 31st May – Friday 4th June Half Term
Monday 7th June – Friday 16th July
(Friday 16th July – sports day and picnic hopefully!)

Absence

If your child is going to miss a playschool session or arrive later than 9.30 we would appreciate it you could either text or phone us to let us know. As ever, if it's potentially Coronavirus, please do let us know as soon as possible so we can minimise the risk to all.

If we don't hear from you, we are legally obliged to try and contact you under statutory safeguarding regulations. If we are unable to contact you, we will call those listed on your registration forms. If we are still unable to reach you, Surrey CC guidelines dictate that we must contact the local police as we have a duty of care to ensure your child is safe and well. To avoid any embarrassing and awkward situations for any of us, we really do appreciate a quick text, whatsapp or phone call to confirm your child's absence.

Thank you. **07908 018924**

Funding

Those children eligible for 3 year old FEE funding, or 2 year old FEET funding will be given a funding claim form when we return. Please complete this and return it as soon as possible to help us ensure we received the funding on the first payment date. If you are accessing 30 hours extended funding, please ensure you check your claim is still valid, and if you aren't sure you qualify for the 30 hours, please take a look at www.childcarechoices.gov.uk/ to check.

Eastwick Road Church

We're so lucky to have such strong links with Ted and the rest of the team at Eastwick Road Church. Once services can resume, they're hoping to offer a range of family services including baptisms and family services, so please do check out their website if it's something you might be interested in [Eastwick Road Church Bookham \(bookhamurc.org.uk\)](http://Eastwick Road Church Bookham (bookhamurc.org.uk))

We're really looking forward to seeing you all next week!

Happy new year!!



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